

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF AVERY**

The Avery County Board of Commissioners met in a Workshop Session on March 9, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. at Mountain Glen Clubhouse, Newland, NC for the purpose of discussing planning issues affecting Avery County.

Members Present: Kenny Poteat, Chairman; Phyllis Forbes, Vice-Chair; Scott Heath; Martha Hicks; Glenn Johnson

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Robert Wiseman, County Manager; Tim Greene, Finance Officer

Call To Order

Chairman Poteat called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

Chairman Poteat expressed his appreciation for all of the Board's attendance at the workshop.

Chairman Poteat led prayer.

Budget Process

Robert Wiseman, County Manager, stated that a balanced budget needed to be presented by June 1, 2009 and the budget must be adopted by July 1, 2009 but if the budget is not adopted by July 1, 2009 then the County would have to go into an interim budget which is an administrative catastrophe.

Tim Greene, Finance Officer, explained the budget process. He stated that the first of February department heads are asked to submit a 5 year capital budget and then around the middle of February the department budget package is sent out and then budget meetings will be scheduled with each department in the month of March and April. The budget meetings with the Commissioners will be held the end of April and in May.

The budget process was discussed. Discussion regarding decreases in sales tax, inspection fees, excise taxes, etc. The Finance Officer stated that the elected officials are allowed to lobby for their budget; these include school board, sheriff, fire commission, register of deeds and tax collector.

Recess

Recess for 30 minutes.

Machinery Act

Discussion to update the new commissioners regarding the Machinery Act.

Fee Schedules

The County Manager stated that some formula needed to be developed that would automatically increase fees (landfill, inspections, etc.) based on the consumer price index. He said that with the Board's permission he would get some facts and figures together regarding this issue.

Recreation Property

Discussion regarding the Recreation Property (Wright Property).

There was no action taken at this workshop.

Adjourn

Motion by Glenn Johnson and second by Phyllis Forbes to adjourn this workshop at 3:00 p.m.

Motion unanimously approved.

**Kenny Poteat, Chairman
Avery County Board of Commissioners**

Attest: Cindy Turbyfill